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TAGS: [PGOV](#) [PREL](#) [AORC](#) [UNSC](#) [KV](#) [GB](#)
SUBJECT: GABON LIKELY TO RECOGNIZE KOSOVO

REF: STATE 11928

Classified By: Poloff Leslie Doumbia for reasons 1.4(b) and (d).

(C) "In my opinion, Gabon should recognize Kosovo", declared Ministry of Foreign Affairs Legal Advisor Michel Biang in a February 11 meeting with Poloff. Biang claimed that Foreign Minister Paul Toungui shared his personal view that Kosovo should be recognized. He said the issue recently came up on the margins of a meeting in Rome on United Nations Security Council reform, during which the Albanian delegation lobbied for support of Kosovo. Biang said that Gabon will announce its final decision soon, and that Gabon has taken note of U.S. views, set out in reftel and conveyed by Poloff. While Biang's view does not represent Gabon's official position, it suggests that prospects for Gabon recognizing Kosovo are more favorable than previously thought.
REDDICK